

Barron County Library Plan

2023-2028

DRAFT: Public Hearing Draft

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Approved by Barron County Planning Committee Date:

Approved by Barron County Board of Supervisors Date:

Barron County Library Planning Committee Members

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Advisors to Planning Committee

John Thompson, Director of IFLS Library System

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I. Introduction

The six municipalities of Barron County – Barron, Cameron, Chetek, Cumberland, Rice Lake, and Turtle Lake, offer library service to the residents of Barron County. The specifics of this commitment are outlined in the Plan of Library Service, as part of this commitment to offer services to the residents of the county; the county has developed this plan for the financial support of the service provided by these libraries.

II. Vision Statement

Barron County shall continue to promote equitably and adequately funded libraries which provide equitable access to library services for all residents of Barron County through the cooperative efforts of involved units of government.

III. Background

A. Statutory Requirements for County Planning

Wisconsin Statutes 43.11. County Library Planning Committees.

43.11.1 CREATION. Any county board may appoint a county library planning committee under this section. If a county board, in a county where all public library service is administered or coordinated by an existing county library board or where there is a single-county public library system board, determines to appoint a committee under this section, the existing library board may serve as the county library planning committee. The county Board shall notify the division immediately upon appointment of the committee.

43.11.3 DUTIES AND POWERS.

(a) The committee may prepare a new plan for the organization of a county or multicounty system, revise an existing plan or change the boundaries of a public library system. It shall conduct public hearings concerning these plans, revisions and changes to which representatives of all libraries in the county shall be invited.

(b) The committee's final report, including a new plan, revisions to an existing plan or changes to the boundaries of a public library system and copies of any written agreements necessary to implement the proposal, shall be filed with the county board, and submitted to the division. Plans for multicounty systems shall include a method for allocating system board membership among the member counties.

(c) The plan of library service for a county, whether for a single county or a multicounty system, shall provide for library services to residents of those municipalities in the county not maintaining a public library under this chapter. The services shall include full access to public libraries participating in the public library system, and the plan shall provide for reimbursement for that access. Services may include books-by-mail service, or other services deemed appropriate by the committee. Services may be provided by contracting with existing public libraries in the county or in adjacent counties, or with the public library system, or by creating a county library organization under this chapter. The plan of library service for a county may provide for improving public library service countywide and in municipalities that have libraries. The plan shall specify the method and level of funding to be provided by the county to implement the service described in the plan, including the reimbursement of public libraries for access by residents of those municipalities in the county not maintaining a public library.

(d) The plan of library services for a county may include minimum standards of operation for public libraries in the county. The county shall hold a public hearing on any standards proposed under this paragraph. The standards shall take effect if they are approved by the county and the public library boards of at least 50% of the participating municipalities in the county that contain, according to the most recent estimate prepared under Section 16.96, at least 80% of the population of participating municipalities in the county.

(e) The plan of library services for a county may require that a municipality located in whole or in part within the county that operates a public library compensate another municipality located in whole or in part within the county that operates a public library whenever the latter public library provides library services to residents of the municipality that operates the former public library. The compensation for each loan may not exceed the actual cost of the loan, as defined by the department by rule.

B. History of Library Development and Planning in the County

As members of the IFLS Library System (IFLS) since 1978, the public libraries in the county have access to library consultants who provide information service such as reference, interlibrary loan service, support for children's services, and services for special needs. The libraries are also eligible for both state and federal grants through IFLS.

C. County Membership in the IFLS Library System

With its membership in the IFLS Library System, the County Administrator (per 59.52) appoints two citizens of Barron County to the Board, one of which is usually a County Board member.

IV. Current Library Services to County Residents

A. Inventory of Services. See Attachment 1.

B. Governance Structure of Library Organizations

All libraries in Barron County are governed by municipal boards which meet monthly and are appointed by their municipality. Rural representatives are appointed in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes 43.60(3). Board members each serve a 3-year term including municipal representatives.

Current board composition is as follows: NEEDS CONFIRMATION

Barron-7 members 1 School Superintendent 1 City Council Representative 5 Citizens at Large from City of Barron	Cameron-5 members 1 School Representative 1 Village Board Representative 3 Citizens at Large	Chetek-7 members 1 School Representative 1 City Council Representative 5 Citizens at Large
Cumberland-8 members 1 School Representative 1 City Council Representative 5 Citizens at Large 1 County Representative	Rice Lake-8 members 1 School Representative 1 City Council Representative 1 County Representative 5 Citizens at Large	Turtle Lake-5 members 1 School Representative 1 Village Board Representative 3 Citizens at Large

C. Current Library Usage Statistics for County Residents

All Barron County libraries maintain detailed circulation statistics which indicate daily circulation by residence, that is, whether each item circulated is checked out by a resident of a municipality with a library or a resident of a municipality without a library (rural resident.) With MORE (the online catalog and circulation system) the circulation and residence of the borrower is automatically calculated. All municipal libraries in Barron County are part of MORE.

The 2021 statistics of circulation in Barron County libraries are as follows:

Library	Local Municipality	Barron County with a Library	Barron County without a Library	IFLS Counties with a Library	IFLS Counties without a Library	Adjacent Counties not in IFLS with a Library	Adjacent Counties not in IFLS without a Library	Other WI Residents	Out of State
Barron	18,778	3,206	15,075	349	1,115	-	42	13	11
Cameron	10,814	568	9,597	293	987	-	1	-	-
Chetek	6,864	374	15,237	852	1,550	-	-	26	-
Cumberland	19,042	559	19,860	594	4,049	549	1,558	73	258
Rice Lake	55,288	5,798	45,056	610	3,821	1,755	7,306	41	76
Turtle Lake	4,338	147	3,185	196	4,973	-	74	1	-

V. Required Funding Under Act 150/Act 420

The amount required to be paid out under Act 150 "70% Cost of Rural Circulation."

Act 150 Calculations Using 2021 Data for Payment in 2023

	Total Operational Expenditures (minus Federal)	Total Circulation	Cost Per Circulation	Barron County Rural Circulation	100% Cost Rural Circulation	70% Cost Rural Circulation	75% Cost Rural Circulation	76% Cost Rural Circulation	77% Cost Rural Circulation
Barron	\$ 340,853	38,589	\$ 8.83	15,075	\$ 133,112.25	\$ 93,178.58	\$ 99,834.19	\$ 101,165.31	\$ 102,496.42
Cameron	\$ 119,491	22,260	\$ 5.37	9,597	\$ 51,535.89	\$ 36,075.12	\$ 38,651.92	\$ 39,167.28	\$ 39,682.64
Chetek	\$ 208,683	24,903	\$ 8.38	15,237	\$ 127,686.06	\$ 89,380.24	\$ 95,764.55	\$ 97,041.41	\$ 98,318.27
Cumberland	\$ 415,792	46,542	\$ 8.93	19,860	\$ 177,349.80	\$ 124,144.86	\$ 133,012.35	\$ 134,785.85	\$ 136,559.39
Rice Lake	\$ 739,481	119,751	\$ 6.18	45,056	\$ 278,446.08	\$ 194,912.26	\$ 208,834.56	\$ 211,619.02	\$ 214,403.48
Turtle Lake	\$ 102,613	12,914	\$ 7.95	3,185	\$ 25,320.75	\$ 17,724.53	\$ 18,990.56	\$ 19,243.77	\$ 19,496.98

VI. Goals and Objectives

A. Goal: Provide equitable access to library services to all residents of Barron County.

Objectives:

- 1) Each library shall continue to provide hours of operation and a range of services in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes 43.11 (c).
- 2) Develop and support life-long learning programming and the library as a third space (Community Public Gathering Space).
- 3) Support county-wide broadband enhancements.
- 4) Encourage 24/7 wireless access at all public libraries.
- 5) Continue to provide service to special needs individuals, childcare centers, nursing homes and group homes, on an individual library basis.
- 6) Support e-commerce and e-government
- 7) All libraries will provide interlibrary loans in the manner prescribed by IFLS and will follow System guidelines, policies, and procedures.
- 8) All libraries will continue to provide shared research and information service.
- 9) Continue courier service among public libraries.
- 10) Each public library will participate in MORE. (MORE-**My Online Resource**; Online circulation/online catalog for sharing resources)
- 11) Support and encourage non-participating municipalities in providing library services.
- 12) Support literacy activities and programs.

B. Goal: Promote equitably and adequately funded libraries.

Objectives:

- 1) Increase 75% payments to 80% by 2028 by increasing percentage payments by 1% each year until 80% is achieved. Payments are made to each of public libraries within Barron County established under Chapter 43 of Wisconsin Statutes, serving Barron County residents without a library as calculated by the formula included in Wisconsin Statutes 43.12(1).
- 2) Maintain the compensation to outside county libraries at a rate of 70% of the cost of circulation.
- 3) Encourage library trustees, library staff, County Board members and patrons to work with legislators to promote equitable funding of libraries.

C. Goal: Maintain the relevancy of the Library Plan

Objectives:

- 1) The Library Directors in Barron County will meet annually to evaluate and review the plan; make recommendations to the County Administrator for changes that need to be made; and evaluate compliance with the Wisconsin Public Library Standards.
- 2) The Library Planning Committee will meet as deemed necessary by the County Administrator and the Director of IFLS to revise the plan. Other units of government and librarians should be invited to participate.
- 3) County Administrator will appoint the next library planning committee (January 2027).

D. Goal: Barron County will continue to be represented on the IFLS Advisory Council of Libraries.

E. Goal: The Barron County Library Directors shall communicate and cooperate effectively and hold regular meetings on a rotating location basis.

F. Goal: To make county residents aware of the scope of library services.

Objectives:

- 1) Publicize library services and programs within each library service area utilizing techniques such as:
 - a. Local press releases
 - b. Submit special interest stories to local newspapers
 - c. Provide information to Barron County to publish on the county web page
 - d. Publicize library services and programs in some fashion at least quarterly
- 2) Barron County maintains links on the county web page to all county libraries.
- 3) The County Library Directors shall make library service report to the County Board.

G. Goal: Encourage all libraries to achieve compliance with the Tier 1 Standards as set forth in the most recent edition of the Wisconsin Public Library Standards.

VII. Implementation

Individual libraries in the county will provide the services listed in Section IV.

Funding to the libraries for rural library use will be provided by the Barron County Clerk's Office/Finance Department based on figures submitted to the office in the form of the annual Department of Public Instruction report. These payments are made as direct cash payments to the municipal library boards of trustees per the requirement in Wisconsin Statutes 43.12.

VIII. Updating, Evaluating, and Amending the Plan

This plan is subject to the passing of time, which may make objectives and recommendations obsolete. Plan monitoring and evaluation is an ongoing process and will eventually lead to a plan update. The Barron County Library Directors will monitor the progress of plan implementation and evaluate it against changing conditions on a yearly basis, or as changes warrant. The Barron County Administrator shall establish a new County Library Planning Committee in January 2027 or when significant updates are needed.

ATTACHMENT 1: 2022 Inventory of Library Services

Library Services	Barron	Cameron	Chelek	Cumberland	Rice Lake	Turtle Lake
Access to digital materials (including e-books & e-audiobooks, database)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Access to income tax forms	X	X	X	X	X	X
Audiobooks	X	X	X	X	X	X
Books	X	X	X	X	X	X
Community, genealogy, and family history	X	X	X	X	X	X
Continuing education for staff and board members	X	X	X	X	X	X
Copy machines	X	X	X	X	X	X
Displays that promote library materials and services	X	X	X	X	X	X
DVDs (movie, TV series, non fiction DVDs)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Equipment (technology like tablets, projector, computers, music players)	X	X		X	X	X
Library of things (non-traditional circulating items like dementia caregiving kits, snowshoes, wkg library, cooking equipment and more)	X			X	X	
Interlibrary loans (ILL)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Internet access / wi-fi for the public	X	X	X	X	X	X
Literacy programs (summer reading programs, 1000 books before kindergarten, etc)	X	X	X	X	X	X
Magazine and newspaper subscriptions	X	X	X	X	X	X
Meeting room(s) and space(s)	X	X		X	X	X
Microfilm reader	X			X	X	
Online information services	X	X	X	X	X	X
Outreach services	X	X	X	X	X	X
Programming for children, teens, adults, and families	X	X	X	X	X	X
Reference and reader's advisory service	X	X	X	X	X	X
Social media sites	X	X	X	X	X	X
Statistical data of services including annual report	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tables and seating	X	X	X	X	X	X
Technology resources	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tours and library orientation	X	X	X	X	X	X
Wi-Fi available for checkout				X	X	X